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CLASSIFICATION

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COUNTRY Soviet Zone, Germany

REPORT NO.

25X1A

TOPIC Practice Bombing Grounds of KUMMERSDORF

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DATE OF CONTENT 24 June 1949

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 2 August 1949

REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

SOURCE

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25X1X 1. Bomb release practices were performed over the KUMMERSDORF (N 53/2 80) bomb range from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and from 2:30 p.m. to 7:25 p.m. on 24 June 1949. Eighteen squadrons of twin-engine aircraft, each squadron consisting of 9 planes, flew over this area at altitudes of from 10,000 to 13,000 feet. Upon a smoke signal of the leading airplane, the other aircraft dropped their bombs simultaneously (saturation bombing). Each squadron was followed by a biplane flying at low level over the bombed area. The aircraft had come from the direction of JUSTERBOG (N 52/2 69) and proceeded in the same direction after releasing their bombs.

25X1A 2. Comment:

The existence of the KUMMERSDORF air force training field is known from previous reports. The field has so far been utilized by fighters conducting firing practices and by bombers of the III Bmr Corps for bomb release practices. Mostly individual aircraft have practiced there. This is the first information on bomb release practices by aircraft flying in formation. Apparently an optical signal indicates the moment when all aircraft have to release their bombs simultaneously.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.
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NO CHANGE in Class.

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DDA Memo, 4 Apr 97

Auth: DDA REC.

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